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Town Council  
of the  
Borough of Pembroke

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the Year 1968.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR

1968.

To His Worship the Mayor and Corporation of  
the Borough of Pembroke

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1968. As this will be my last report, I feel it may be of interest to Members to compare it with my first full report in 1956.

Housing.

There has been a considerable increase in the numbers of council houses and, to a less extent, private houses since 1956, so that the number of dwellings overcrowded is now almost nil and, in addition, some of the older houses have been modernised.

There has been an increase in the resident population (Registrar General's estimate) from 13,760 to 13,870.

Caravanning.

There has been an increase in the number of residential caravans in the Borough. Fortunately, the standard of caravanning on all sites has improved, but much vigilance is required to maintain this standard and to prevent overcrowding.

Infectious Disease.

I am pleased to be able to report a marked reduction in the incidence of infectious disease during this period. In 1956, there were 113 notifications, whereas in 1968 there were only 18, as follows :-

<u>1956.</u>	<u>1968.</u>
6 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3
10   "   "   Scarlet Fever	5
79   "   "   Whooping Cough	0
14   "   "   Pneumonia	not notifiable
1 case   "   Erysipelas	0
1   "   "   Diphtheria	0
1   "   "   Poliomyelitis	0
1   "   "   Food Poisoning	0
not notifiable ... Infective Jaundice	1
0 cases of Measles	9

Prevention of Infectious Disease.

In the autumn of 1955, vaccination against tuberculosis was commenced in the schools and clinics and since that time vaccination against poliomyelitis and measles has also been introduced and improvements made in the vaccination against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Members of the Council and its Officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation and to include in this my thanks to my clerk for all her help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

*Phyllis M. Bowen*

The Clinic,  
TENBY.

PHYLLIS M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.P.H.,



# V I T A L       S T A T I S T I C S .

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 1968 ... 13,870

	<u>Pem.Boro'</u> <u>1968</u>	<u>Pem.Boro'</u> <u>1967</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>&amp; Wales</u>
Live Births	286	296		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	20.6	21.8	17.3	16.9
Illegitimate Live Births	17	28		
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	6	9.45		
Still Births	4	4		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	14	13.3	12.0	14.0
Total Live and Still Births	290	300		
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1yr)	5	7		
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)				
- total	17	24	16.0	18.0
- legitimate	17	24		
- illegitimate	Nil	Nil		
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4wks)(per 1,000 Live Births)	10.5	10.13	10.3	12.3
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1wk) (per 1,000 Live Births)	7	10.13	8.6	10.5
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1wk & Still Births combined) (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	24	23	21	25
Maternal Deaths	Nil	1		
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	Nil	3.3	0.56	0.24
Deaths	180	176		
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	13.0	13.0	12.1	11.9





### INFANT MORTALITY.

Five infants died under 1 year of age, during the year; details are given below :-

<u>Age at death.</u>	<u>Birth Weight.</u>	<u>Cause of Death.</u>
1) 11 hours (M)	4lbs.7ozs.	Prematurity.
2) 22 hours (F)	2lbs.4ozs.	Prematurity.
3) 2 days (M)	8lbs.4ozs.	Congenital ventricular defect and pulmonary stenosis.
4) 1 week (M)	4lbs.3ozs.	Prematurity.
5) 6 months (F)	5lbs.4ozs.	Interstitial Pneumonia.

### DEATHS (General).

There is little change in the death rate this year. Malignant disease accounted for 19 deaths, 3 of these were due to cancer of the lung. 77 deaths were due to some form of heart disease.

Approximately 29% of the total 180 deaths in the Borough, occurred in persons between the age of 70 and 80 years and approximately 13% in persons aged over 80 years.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	92	88
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast		1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus		1
Leukaemia	1	-
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.,	4	6
Diabetes Mellitus	2	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.,	2	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	1
Hypertensive disease	1	4
Ischaemic heart disease	34	36
Other forms of heart disease	2	4
Cerebro-vascular disease	10	8
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	2
Influenza	1	5
Pneumonia	5	7
Bronchitis and emphysema	10	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Peptic ulcer	2	1
Cirrhosis of liver	1	-
Other diseases of digestive system	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	
Other disease of genito-urinary system	1	-
Congenital anomalies	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.,	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	-
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-

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## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Slight changes were made in October 1968, when the new Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, came into force, which made certain infectious diseases cease to be notifiable and certain others were added to the list to be notified.

During the year, the following notifications were received in respect of persons residing in the Borough:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	5
Measles	...	...	9
Respiratory Tuberculosis.			3
Infective Jaundice	...		1

## TUBERCULOSIS.

I am pleased to be able to report that, again this year, there were no deaths from Tuberculosis, but three new cases were notified to me - 2 male patients and 1 female.

### Prevention of Tuberculosis:

B.C.G. Vaccination: Vaccination of schoolchildren (13 years and over) continued during the year at school sessions and at the Clinics when necessary. 739 children in the county were skin-tested and of these 694 were vaccinated; 61 contacts were also vaccinated.

Vaccination of contacts continues to be carried out by Dr. Llewelyn Davies, the Chest Physician, at the Chest Clinic.

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

Owing to the steady decline in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis found and the better alternative facilities for doctors to refer cases for X-ray, the Mobile Circuit discontinued their frequent short visits to West Wales during 1968 and commenced an annual visit in October, to examine industrial groups and general population at Pembroke and Pembroke Dock.

At Pembroke, 380 persons (general population) were examined, 201 males and 179 females, and of these 1 female patient required further observation and 2 females and 2 males were found to have some other abnormality of chest.

At Pembroke Dock, 162 persons were examined - 52 males and 110 females and 1 female here needed further observation; 6 persons, 2 males and 4 females were found to have other abnormalities of chest.

Three factories in the area were visited during the autumn; Pembroke Woollen Company, Davies Steel Specialists Limited and H.M. Defence Boon Depot, Pembroke Dock, where 85 persons, 164 persons and 78 persons respectively, were examined.

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

### Local Health Services, Part III.

#### Care of Mothers and Young Children.

This service, undertaken by the County Council, provides ante-natal supervision by the District Nurse/Midwife and the patient's own doctor and child welfare clinics at Pembroke and Pembroke Dock, staffed by a Medical Officer and Health Visitors.

#### Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

There are three District Nurse/Midwives in the Borough and the Midwifery Service is provided by the County Nursing Association, under the supervision of the County Nursing Officer, under the direction of the County Medical Officer.



### Health Visiting Service.

There are three full-time Health Visitors and School Nurses in the Borough working under the supervision of the County Nursing Officer.

### Home Nursing.

The County Council employ two District Nurses and one Relief Nurse for combined Home Nursing and Midwifery duties.

### Domestic Help Service.

The Home Help Organiser of the County Council is responsible for the administration of this service, which endeavours to provide domestic help in homes where assistance is needed on account of sickness or old age. This service helps to reduce the need for hospital beds and Part III accommodation.

### Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, continued to be carried out at Clinics and at School sessions during 1968. Measles vaccination was introduced in the summer, but owing to limited supplies of vaccine, only children between the ages of 4 and 7 years were offered this protection at first; by the end of the year, all children under 15 years had been offered vaccination. As there are no separate district figures available, the following details relate to all children (under 15 years) who were vaccinated and immunised in the county of Pembroke:-

Primary Diphtheria immunisations:	1194;	Booster doses:	1702
Whooping Cough immunisations:	1088.	-	
Primary Tetanus immunisations:	1370;	Booster doses:	1779
Primary Polio. vaccinations:	1271;	Booster doses:	1172
Primary Smallpox vaccinations:	634;	Re-vaccinations:	49
Measles vaccinations:	2587.	-	
B.C.G.vaccinations:	694.	-	

### Ambulance Service.

The County Council is responsible for the running of this service, with ten ambulances based at various points in the county - two of these are based at Pembroke Dock.

During the year, Ambulance No.1 at Pembroke Dock, travelled a total of 33,591 miles, conveying 1,526 sitting patients and 354 stretcher patients - averaging 17.8 miles per patient.

Ambulance No. 2 travelled a total of 28,682 miles, conveying 1,728 sitting patients and 377 stretcher patients - an average of 13.6 miles per patient.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47: Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under the above Section during the year.





